

Bearing Life's Burdens

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A. M.

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Gal. 6:5 "For each man shall bear his own burdens."
Gal. 6:2 "Bear ye one another's burdens."
Ps. 55:22 "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and he will sustain thee."

Intro. The bearing of burdens is the common experience of everyone in the world. A Spanish proverb says, "No home is there that does not sooner or later have its hush."

"Many of the burdens of men & women are seen. The deepest and most poignant burdens are not seen."

If we could but see what burdens one is carrying, we would be more charitable toward him and less complaining of our own burdens.

The Bible has three instructions to give in regard to burdens. The 3 texts.

7. Every man shall bear his own burdens.

In a sense every life is lived alone.

No one can live your life for you.

"To every man his work."

Nobody can do your duty for you, nobody can repent of sin for you. Nobody can believe on Christ and trust in God for you.

Everyone is accountable unto God for himself.

No hiding behind others. No getting load in the crowd. God sees the individual.

Johnathan Edwards wrote in his diary - "Resolved first, that every man should do right, whatever it costs. Resolved, secondly, whether any other man does right or not, I will, so help me God."

3) II. Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the Law of Christ."

Our burdens are often community burdens, social burdens, burdens to be shared with others.

Read paragraph from Leach in Forum.

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye who are spiritual restore such an one, in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." In this way we bear one another's burdens & so fulfill the Law of Christ.

Example of quick-tempered swearing young man. Did not want to join church when converted. After six months - flew off the handle & disappeared from church. Minister met him - his statement. Prayer-meeting.

Criticise? throw stones? Condemn? No - bear ye one another's burdens - help the fellow who goes wrong - that is the way.

Likewise we should share one another's sorrows.

"He went about doing good" - Best picture of Jesus. How can we help people - by believing in them. By encouraging them in every way. By sharing with them.

Little girl with invalid mother - went for bottle of milk, tripped & fell, smashing bottle. Big burly man laughed at her, says, "What a beating your mother will give you when you get home."

"Nothing of the sort, sir. My mamma always believes in giving me another chance." So does God. So ought we.

Fire - a frail woman at window in top story. Up went ladder & fireman upst in blanket on way down amid flames he faltered. Chief called to men, "Cheer him boys."

We ought to give our lives to cheering a needy world. Said "They helped every one his neighbor; and everyone said to his brother, Be of good courage."

3/ ~~III~~ Best of all, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord & he will sustain you."

God will sustain you in 2 ways: - he may take the burden away - he may give you the strength to bear it.

Paul's thorn in the flesh. "My grace is sufficient for you."

The strong man in the city with a frail wife and dying child. bereft of his wife & left with little girlie.

His friends would take him & child away, but no, he would go home & be with his baby girl. Night came, put girlie to bed. She would not sleep. Girl quiet - the man prayed - O God, I trust you but it is so dark, dark as midnight.

Then the girl cried again. "I thought you were asleep."

"I did try, I was sorry for you, but I could not go to sleep, papa." And then she said, "Papa, did you ever know it to be so dark? Why, papa, I can't even see you, it is so dark." And then, sobbing, "But papa, you love me, if it is dark, don't you?"

Papa took her to his breast & she soon went to sleep. He took his baby's cry & passed it up to God & said, "Father, it is dark as midnight. But you love me, if it is dark, don't you? And a great peace came into his heart. The darkness changed to the dawn of a better day.

Whatever your burden - of sin, of grief, or doubt - cast your burden upon the Lord, and he will sustain you.